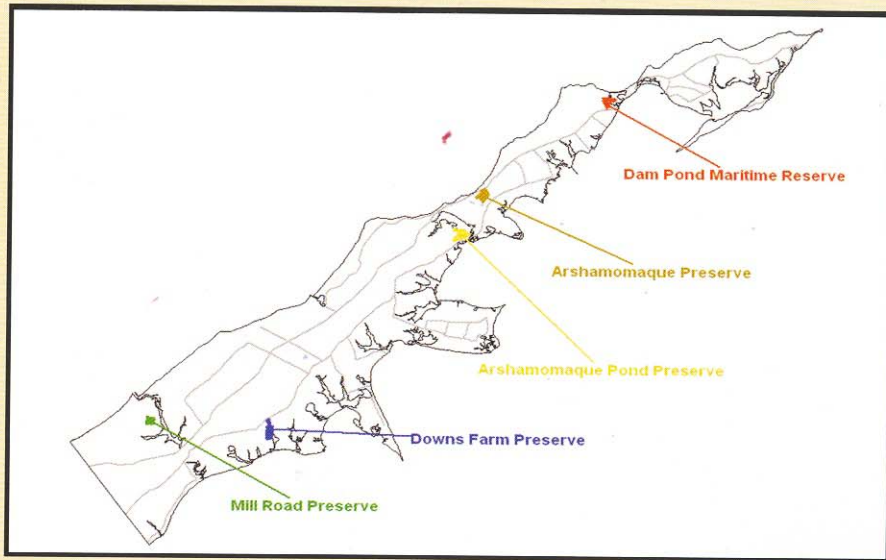


Welcome to Arshamomaque Preserve:

The Town of Southold and the County of Suffolk purchased this 51-acre parcel in 2001 as part of the Arshamomaque Preservation Plan. This property adjoins a 75-acre parcel that the County of Suffolk purchased in 1999. The Arshamomaque Preserve is part of the Long Island Pine Barrens Maritime Reserve and was listed for protection because of its exceptional scenic, biological, and recreational resources.



Help protect and maintain the natural beauty and wildlife habitat of the area.

Please:



Stay on designated trails.

Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints.



Leash your dog.

Check carefully for ticks after your walk.



Educational content provided by
the Marine Program of:

Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County

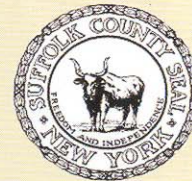
Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal
program and employment opportunities.

The Arshamomaque Preserve is open to the public year-round from dawn to dusk.

Greenport, N.Y.



Town of Southold



PO Box 1179
Southold N.Y. 11971
631-765-1800
<http://southoldtown.northfork.net>

Trail Guide



ARSHAMOMAQUE

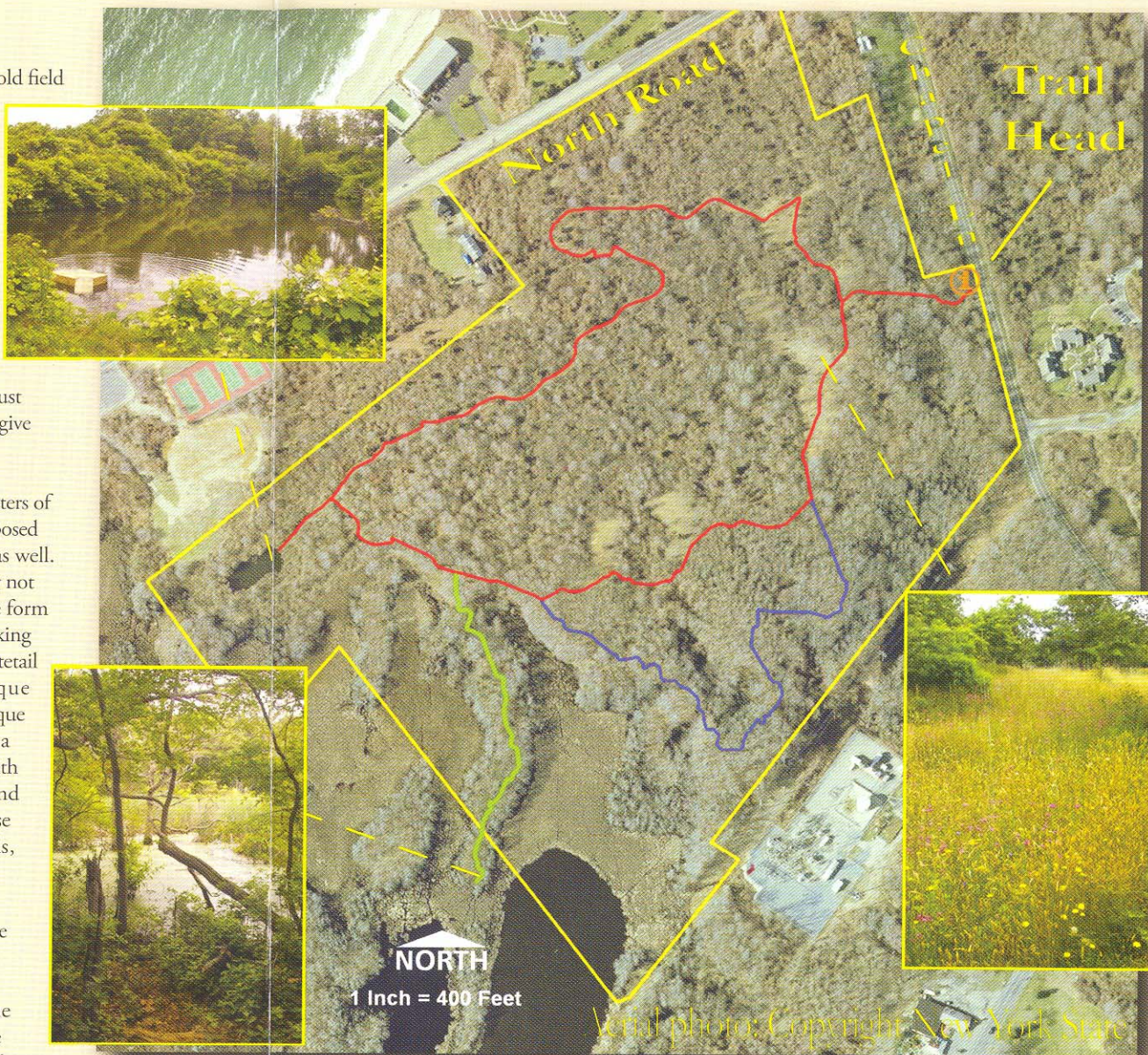
PRESERVE

Habitat and Wildlife:

The primary plant community type in the Arshamomaque Preserve is the old field successional community. This community arises from lands that were once farmed or disturbed and have since begun to revert back to a climax community such as an oak-hickory forest. Based on aerial photographs of the site from 1930, approximately 60% of the preserve was farmed. Over time, areas were left fallow and resulted in the mixed stages of succession that can be observed along the trails. Some areas are at early stages of development and are dominated by grasses and forbs (perennial herbs), which provide food and cover for whitetail deer, bobwhite quail, and eastern cottontails. A large area of the old field community is at the shrubland stage where northern bayberry and eastern red cedar are the dominant species. These areas provide cover for animals to sleep/roost and escape predators. Finally, stands of black locust trees represent an advanced stage in succession. These trees will eventually give way to beeches, oaks, and hickories, but they may persist for many years.

Although a large portion of the preserve was farmed at one time, some clusters of mixed hardwood forest still exist. These woodlands are primarily composed of oaks and hickories, however a stand of American beech has survived as well. The woodland communities are important habitat for many species as they not only provide nesting and roosting areas, but they also supply food in the form of nuts, with beech nuts being especially sought out by many species. Walking through one of the wooded areas of the preserve, one can expect to see whitetail deer, squirrels, mice, voles, woodpeckers, and owls. Arshamomaque Preserve contains two rare wetland communities. The Arshamomaque Preserve includes an excellent example of a swamp cottonwood forest, a community considered rare in New York State. The swamp cottonwood, with its buttressed trunks, form a pure stand or mix with swamp white oak and several other hardwood species to form a mixed hardwood swamp. These forested swamps likely support populations of cavity dwelling birds, including wood ducks and screech owls.

The cattail marsh is the other wetland of note. This site has an extensive system of cattails that may have once been common in some areas of Long Island, but has since succumbed to development and the invasive common reed. There are small stands of common reed within the preserve, but the relative undisturbed condition of the cattail marsh limits the invasive potential of this aggressive plant. Many animals take advantage of the marsh and its adjacent open water including muskrats and waterfowl. Wood duck boxes have been placed within this area to encourage nesting and increase local populations.



Site Map

Key:	i = Trail Head
— Red Trail	— Preserve
— Blue Trail	— Overlook Path

For more information about this and other recreational opportunities in the Town of Southold, please contact:

Town of Southold

631-765-1800

PO Box 1179

or:

Southold NY 11971

<http://southoldtown.northfork.net>

